



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Success !

The Abernathy Contributions

The Abernathy Fish Technology Center in Washington State is perhaps best known for its historical success in developing the very first pelleted feed for hatchery fish populations in North America – the Abernathy Dry Salmon Diet. Development of the feed has been the basis for all subsequent hatchery diets throughout the world and is considered one of the greatest achievements in fish culture in the 20th century. The feed set the stage for the Fish Feed Quality Assurance Program, now used at Abernathy to examine the commercial feeds purchased by all hatcheries in the Pacific Northwest. Abernathy's decades of work in fisheries science has included assisting in restoration and recovery of Pacific salmon, steelhead and other fish populations, as well as extensive work in developing innovative fish genetics, pathology and physiology. Nutrition remains one of Abernathy's major successes, but the facility continues important work in a wide range of fish science that has played major roles in restoration and recovery projects across the years.